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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 23 Aug. 1950

SUBJECT 1. Chinese Communist Military Information
2. Appearance of Submarine

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1. About 10 August 1950 CHEN Yi signed an order for the movement south of Communist troops at Wenchou in order to cooperate with the 10 Army Group in an attack on Chinmen Island. CHEN also ordered the 21 Army at Huangyen (121-15, 28-41), to exterminate guerrillas in the Fukien-Chekiang Border Area and on nearby islands. The 21 Army is concentrating junks in the Wenchou area for this purpose, and has at least 100 with motors, and over 200 without motors.
2. During the evening of 30 July, 51 large junks, 20 to 40 tons displacement, belonging to the 25 Army, sailed from Wenchou for Sansha (120-12, 26-56), where two pilots directed them south to a destination presumed to be in the Chinchiang area.
3. On 10 August a second group of 53 junks of the 25 Army arrived in Sansha. The leading junk was one of about 20 tons, the second 40, and the others from 10 to 30 tons. During the afternoon of 10 August the group left Sansha and sailed south for Chinchiang. Shortly after their arrival in Sansha, the ships were observed briefly by an unidentified reconnaissance plane.
4. It is believed that the combined groups of junks are carrying heavy equipment and ammunition. The ground force of the 25 Army is going from Wenchou to the Chinchiang area carrying light equipment.
5. About 11 August forty motor junks at Santuao (119-41, 26-39) were being prepared to exterminate adjacent guerrilla-held islands.

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6. As of 12 August Communist forces in Central Fukien were hurriedly gathering available rice and dispatching it to depots in Amoy and Chinchiang. From thence the rice is transported to Foochow by a truck force of 2-300, travelling mostly at night.
7. On 5 August Communist forces in Swatow-Chaoan sector were commandeering all boats. Local opinion was that they were for use in the invasion of Taiwan.
8. Communists in the Canton area purchased 80,000 life jackets from Hong Kong. On 5 August the jackets were en route from Hong Kong to Canton and thence to Fukein and Chekiang, for the use of a "commando" invasion force.
9. In early August over 100 small steamers from 30 to 1,000 tons, formerly the property of the Chinese Merchants and Ming Sun Steamship Companies, which were concentrated at Whampoa, were being fitted with ammunition and supplies and re-equipped as gunboats or landing craft.
10. At 10 a.m. on 9 August a submarine surfaced for a few minutes near Tungyung (120-30, 26-21) Island. Observer stated that the submarine was white.*

* [REDACTED] Comment. According to a radio broadcast from Paris on 16 August 1950, an unidentified submarine, believed to be Soviet, was observed in the Taiwan Strait by a reconnaissance plane, on 9 August, according to generally well-informed sources in Taipei. The submarine came to the surface for several minutes in the international waters northeast of Foochow, then went down.

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